

## EuRIC officially launches EuRIC Textiles and elects Executive Committee

The European Recycling Industries' Confederation (EuRIC) is proud to announce the creation of EuRIC Textiles and the election of its new Textiles Executive Committee. The Executive Committee was elected during a meeting held on 3 December 2019 in which the vast majority of the European textiles re-use and recycling industry was present.



The newly elected Executive Committee consists of President Mariska Zandvliet, Boer Group, VHT (The Netherlands) and her Vice-Presidents Martin Wittmann, Lorenz Wittmann GmbH, bvse (Germany) and Mehdi Zerroug, Ecotextile, FEDEREC (France). “Our industry has a nice story to tell about how we give a second life to used textiles. The way we handle and process used textiles will be completely re-shaped by the forthcoming European strategy on textiles in the coming months, with many opportunities to address the numerous challenges we are facing”, Mariska Zandvliet stated, “we therefore need a strong European voice to advocate and (re-)design the future of our industry. EuRIC Textiles will be that voice for us in Brussels and together with my European colleagues, I look forward to inform, advise and guide EU policy makers on all issues linked to textiles re-use and recycling”.

EuRIC Textiles Members come from various European countries and are active in the collection, sorting, preparing for re-use, recycling, transport and marketing used textiles, shoes and accessories. Founding Members of EuRIC Textiles include ARTSHC, Assorecuperi, bvse, COBEREC, Etcimex, FEDEREC, FER, Texaid, Textrade and VHT, who have delegated experts from leading textiles re-use and recycling companies to EuRIC.

EuRIC Textiles primary focus will be on promoting, representing and protecting the collective interests of the European textiles reuse and recycling industry but we also aim to work closely with the textiles industry to explore mutual interests.

**EuRIC** - The European Recycling Industries' Confederation - is the umbrella organisation for recycling industries. Through its Member Federations from 21 EU&EFTA countries, EuRIC represents across Europe over:

- 5,500+ companies generating an aggregated annual turnover of about 95 billion €, including large companies and SMEs, involved in the recycling and trade of various resource streams;
- 300,000 local jobs which cannot be outsourced to third EU countries;
- Million tons of waste recycled per year (metals, paper, glass, plastics, textiles, tyres and beyond);

By turning wastes into resources, recycling is the link which reintroduces recycled materials into the value chains again and again.

Recyclers play a key role in bridging resource efficiency, climate change policy and industrial transition.